

I have been a subscriber to XM radio for over a year now. There is nothing like it. It provides many services and content that are not available anywhere else. The new issue concerning XM weather and traffic stations are just another example where XM is unique in its offerings.

Traffic and weather on XM is a product that is unavailable by any other service. First off, 24 hour, 365 day a year offering of weather for major markets is, to my knowledge to XM. Looking at the address that I am providing might raise the question of when I would use these stations and why I care. I am originally from Minneapolis, and though not a current weather market for XM, it is coming later this year. I do not fly home to the Twin Cities, I drive. In my car I automatically have a product that will tell me what kind of driving conditions to expect. In addition, I live in the northern suburbs, and XM's traffic and weather will help me to find the best ways of getting home for the dozen or so times a year that I make the sojourn between states.

I have already used XM's traffic and weather channels in other markets. I have used my car to make two long trips to the east coast. In addition to helping keep my sanity on the long drive, I had information about weather and traffic along my way. My final destinations, Philadelphia for one trip, and D.C. for the other, were cities that were provided for in XM's traffic and weather sections. Since my knowledge of these cities is little to nothing, this service greatly helped me get by in a foreign city.

With Chicago being so close to Iowa City, and with many of my friends from the University being from the Chicagoland area, I have used the listings for Chicago several times already.

Why is this service important? First, it is a greatly useful source of information. Second, this information is not available in any format like this. XM is unique and should not be limited in its potential by existing services that are worried about their own profit margins while being unwilling to do another to help and fill these unique services in a format that they would find more suitable.

The first amendment should always win out. XM is providing a service fully within its constitutional rights. Please do not buy into special interests and cut off this service that is unique, useful, and something valuable to all XM subscribers.

Sincerely,
Brian Chelberg